

**Abstract**

An automated identification and configuration system for use with an implantable medical device (IMD) is disclosed. The system includes a first communication circuit that is attached to, or otherwise carried by, a detachable component associated with the IMD such as a medical lead. The communication circuit stores data such as model numbers, serial numbers, technical data, and/or calibration information that describes the additional component. This information may be transferred by the first communications circuit to a second communications circuit that is external to the additional component. This transferred data can be used to automatically configure the internal circuitry and connection functions of the IMD to properly interface with, and support, the additional component. For example, the data can be used to automatically adjust amplifier gains or other sensor circuitry, or to configure a connector block to properly couple to the component. The data may further be entered into a patient record on an external programmer, or may be transferred to a central storage location to be generally accessible to health care providers. In one embodiment, the first communication circuit is a passive RF transponder. This first communication circuit may include a receiver as well as a transmitter to allow the circuit to programmably receive data at the time of component manufacture.